

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 JIDDA 01326 210829Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----104669 210831Z /14

R 210722Z FEB 78
FM AMEMBASSY JIDDA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1148
INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY CARACAS
AMEMBASSY DJIBOUTI
AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY LA PAZ
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE
AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO
AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN
AMEMBASSY SANA
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY NAIROBI
AMEMBASSY PORT LOUIS
AMEMBASSY PRAGUE
AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI
USMISSION USUN NY

S E C R E T JIDDA 1326

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
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TAGS: PDEV, PORG, UNSC, ET, SO, SA
SUBJECT: HORN OF AFRICA

REF: STATE 42000

1. I MET WITH DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER ABD AL-RAHMAN
AL-MANSOURI ON FEBRUARY 19. MEETING ALSO ATTENDED BY

DCM AND POL COUN. I MENTIONED THAT I HAD REQUESTED APPOINTMENT WITH CROWN PRINCE FAHD FOR FEBRUARY 20 TO DISCUSS HORN OF AFRICA. MANSOURI SAID THAT BRITISH AMBASSADOR HAD MADE DEMARCHE ON FEBRUARY 16 REQUESTING SAG ASSISTANCE IN GETTING SIAD BARRE TO ISSUE STATEMENT EXPRESSING WILLINGNESS TO WITHDRAW FROM OGADEN IN EXCHANGE FOR SECURITY COUNCIL CONSIDERATION OF OGADEN ISSUE. I SAID MY APPROACH TO CROWN PRINCE WOULD BE IN SAME VEIN BUT THAT I HAD COUPLE OF OTHER POINTS TO CONVEY AS RESULT OF DAVID AARON TRIP TO ADDIS ABABA.

2. MANSOURI SAID THAT FIVE-POWER PROPOSAL LACKED FACE-SAVING DEVICE FOR SIAD BARRE. IT WOULD LOOK AS THOUGH SOMALIA HAD LOST WAR, AND HE WONDERED IF

SIAD BARRE COULD SURVIVE IN THESE CIRCUMSTANCES. SAUDI ABABIA HATED TO SEE ALL ITS EFFORTS IN GETTING THE SOVIETS EXPELLED FROM SOMALIA GO DOWN THE DRAIN. I SAID THAT, IF OUR INFORMATION IS CORRECT, THME IS RUNNING OUT MILITARILY FOR SOMALIS AND THAT PROBLEM NOW WAS HOW TO MAKE IT POSSIBLE FOR THE PARTIES TO GO TO NEGOTIATING TABLE AS GRACEFULLY AS POSSIBLE. BEST SOLUTION WAS FOR SOMALIS TO AGREE TO WITHDRAW AND PUT QUESTION IN SECURITY COUNCIL.

3. MANSOURI SAID PROPOSAL WOULD BE MORE PALATABLE IF
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PROVISION WERE MADE FOR TRANSITION PERIOD OF SIX MONTHS TO ONE YEAR DURING WHICH SETTLEMENT WOULD BE IMPLEMENTED IN STAGES. FIRST STAGE WOULD BE CEASFIRE, SECOND STATE WOULD BE SECURITY COUNCIL DEBATE. THIRD STATE COULD BE STATIONING OF UN FORCES IN OGADEN TO REPLACE SOMALI TROOPS. FOURTH STATE WOULD BE IMPLEMENTATION OF SOME FORM OF AUTONOMY OR SELF-DETERMINATION.

4. I TOLD MANSOURI THAT I THOUGHT HIS VIEWS WERE VERY INTERESTING AND THAT I WOULD PASS THEM ALONG. I ALSO REITERATED THAT THIS WAS RUNNING OUT AND THAT WE HAD TO ACT FAST.
WEST

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DEMARCHE, POLITICAL SETTLEMENT, MUTUAL FORCE WITHDRAWALS, UNSC RESOLUTIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 21 feb 1978
Decaption Date: 20 Mar 2014
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978JIDDA01326
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780077-0844
Format: TEL
From: JIDDA
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780233/aaaabcca.tel
Line Count: 107
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 720461d3-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: 78 STATE 42000
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 26 apr 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3538687
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: HORN OF AFRICA
TAGS: PDEV, PORG, ET, SO, SA, UNSC
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/720461d3-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014